MARVEL®

A STICKER FOR YOU!

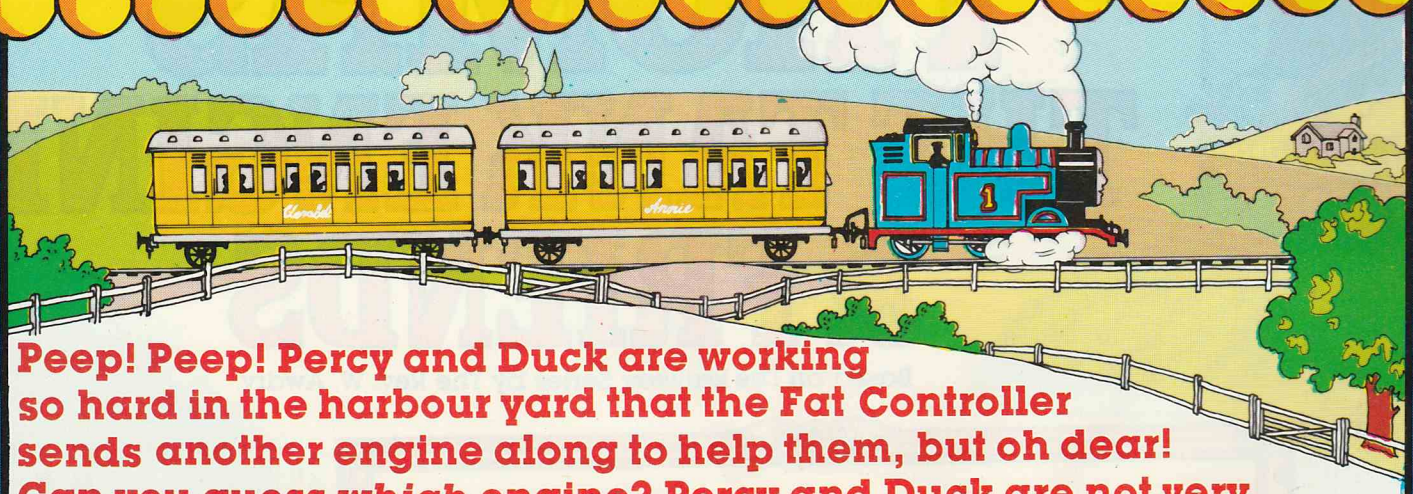
© William Heinemann Ltd 1989

1st. Apr. 1989
No 38 38p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE



Peep! Peep! Percy and Duck are working so hard in the harbour yard that the Fat Controller sends another engine along to help them, but oh dear! Can you guess *which* engine? Percy and Duck are not very happy at all! Find out who causes all the trouble by reading the story which starts on the next page! Peep! Peep!

YOUR STICKER!

This issue of Thomas the Tank Engine has an extra bonus – a splendid, shiny vinyl sticker just for you! Stick it on your bedroom door, your lunch box or even on a kitchen cupboard. (Make sure the grown-ups do not mind, first!) It will remind you every day of Thomas and his world!
Your sticker comes from Scorpio Products International Ltd.

YOUR FACE!

Once you have carefully removed your sticker from the front of your magazine, you will see that the men are carrying a giant mirror. We would like you to draw your face in it! If your mirror has been torn or damaged by removing the sticker, just glue a fresh piece of paper on top. Then cut out your mirrors and send your faces to: *A Face in The Mirror, Thomas the Tank Engine, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*
We will print the happiest faces in issue 43!

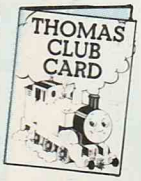
A very happy Easter to all our readers!

A WHOLE YEAR!

By taking out a subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**, every issue will be sent straight to your home for a year! You will also receive a very splendid **Thomas Pack**, and become an automatic member of the **Thomas Club**! Turn to page 7 for details and a picture of our smart **Thomas Pack**!

ANOTHER WAY!

If you do not wich to subscribe to Thomas's magazine, here's another way to join his club: Collect **3** tokens like the one below. Send one **yellow**, one **red** one **green** one, together with a stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*



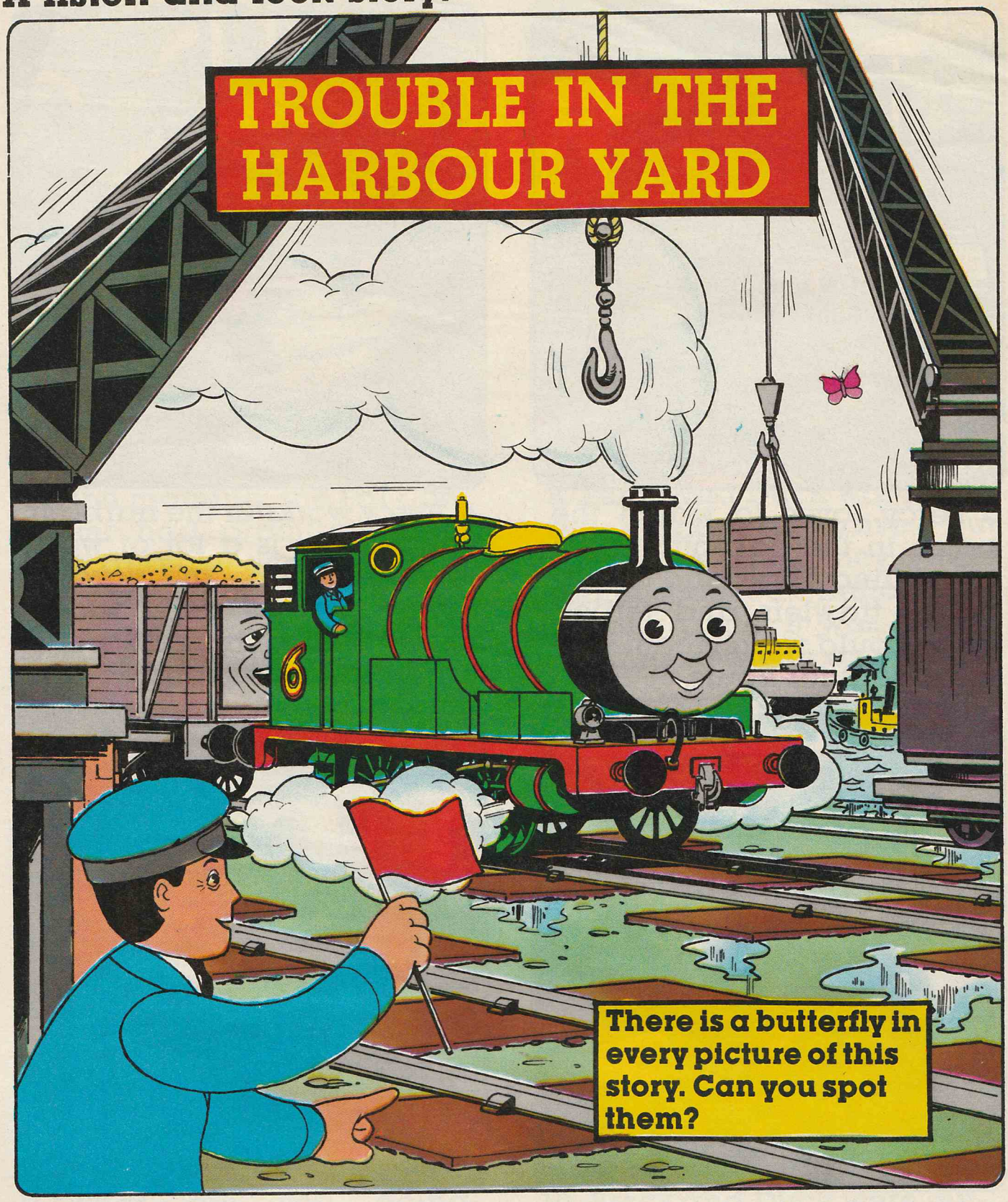
You will receive your own little black and white membership card and number.

Please allow 28 days for delivery.

THOMAS TOKEN

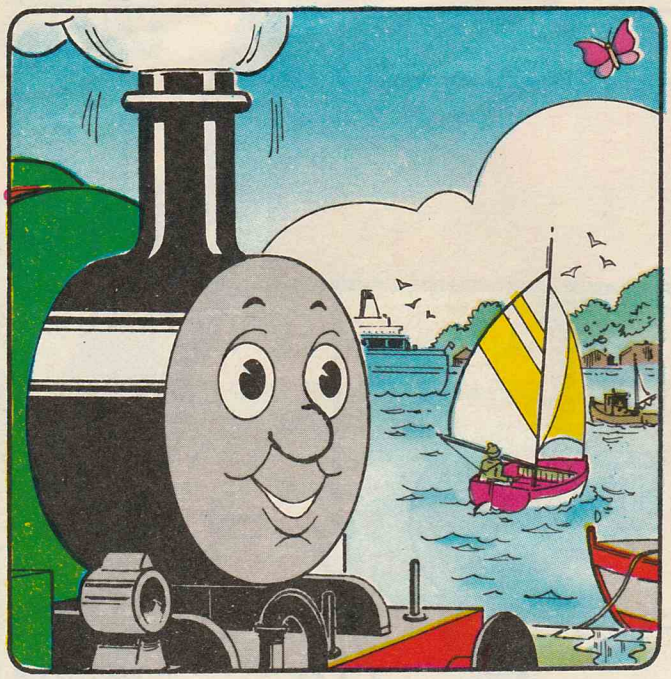
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by MARVEL COMICS LTD. 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX. All THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited 1989 copyright © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd 1989. All publishing rights William Heinemann Ltd. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Ltd to Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd exclusively worldwide. No similarity between any names characters persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in England. Distributed by COMAG.

A listen and look story!



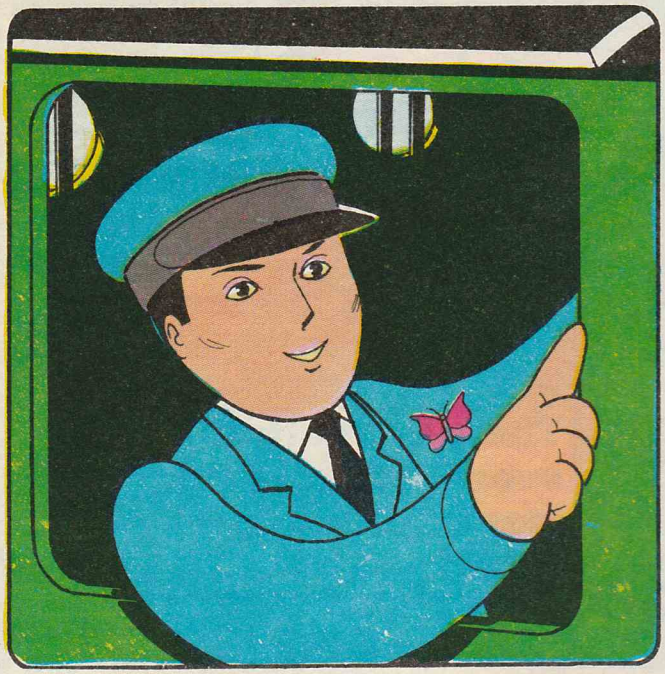
1. Percy likes to work down at the big harbour on the Island of Sodor. All the construction work is finished now. There are two big docks where ships come in.

2. Sometimes the ships bring passengers, but mostly they carry cargo. The cargo is loaded and unloaded by cranes on the docks. Percy pulls the trucks underneath.

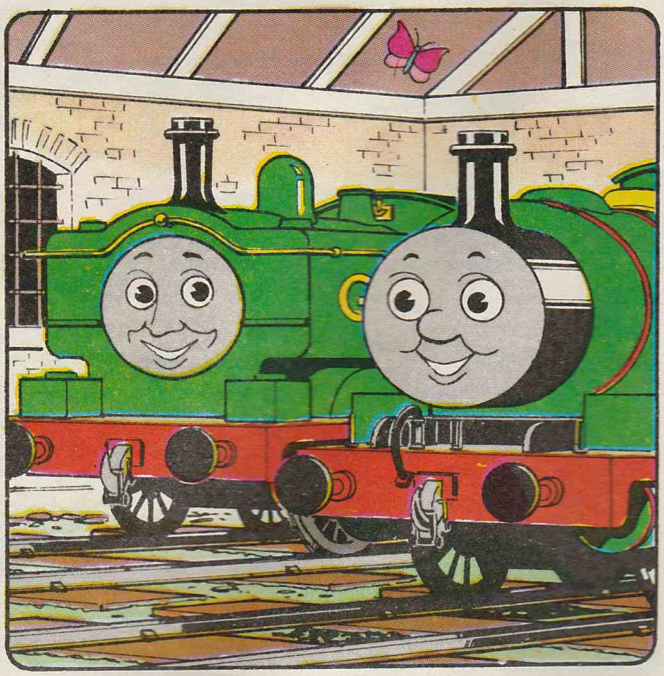


3. Percy loves to watch the boats in the harbour. There are sailing boats and motorboats, trawlers and ferries. Percy could watch them sailing about for hours.

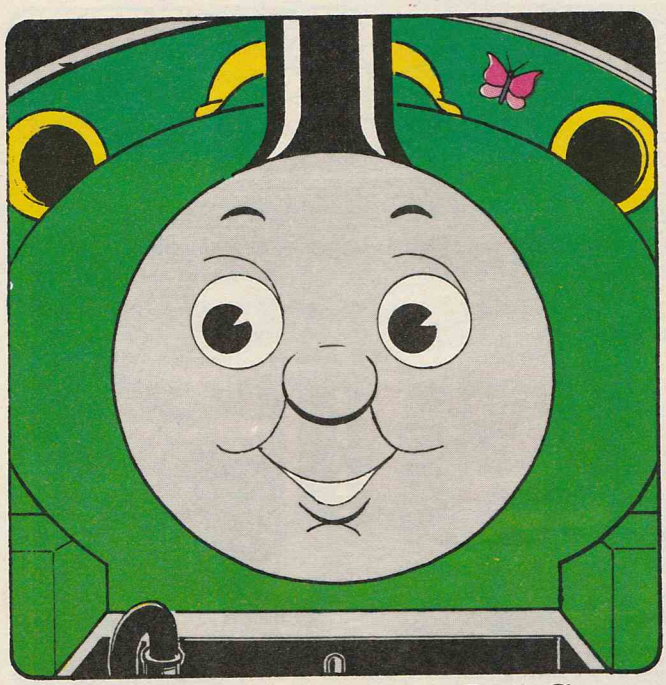
4. Percy works in the harbour yard. There is a lot of work for him to do. The yard is always full of trucks which need to be shunted back and forth to the ships.



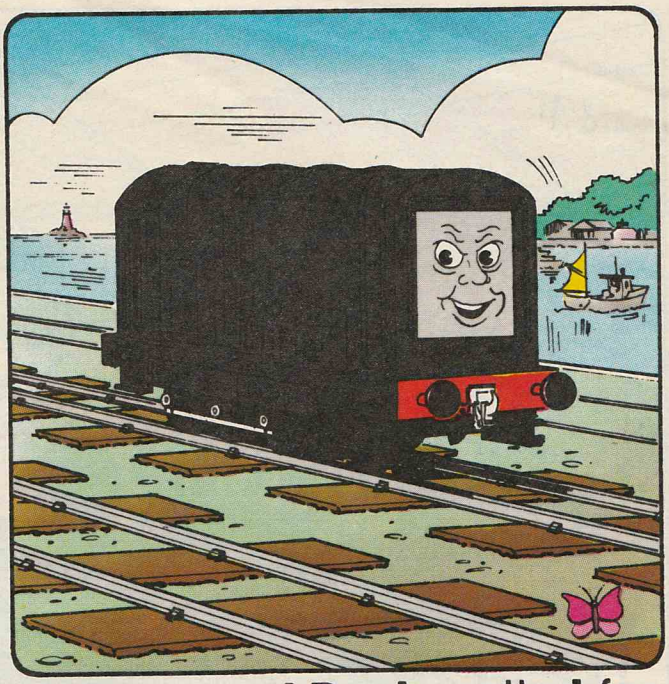
5. "You are working hard, Percy," says his driver. "The Fat Controller is going to have to get more engines for this yard. It's too much to handle on your own!"



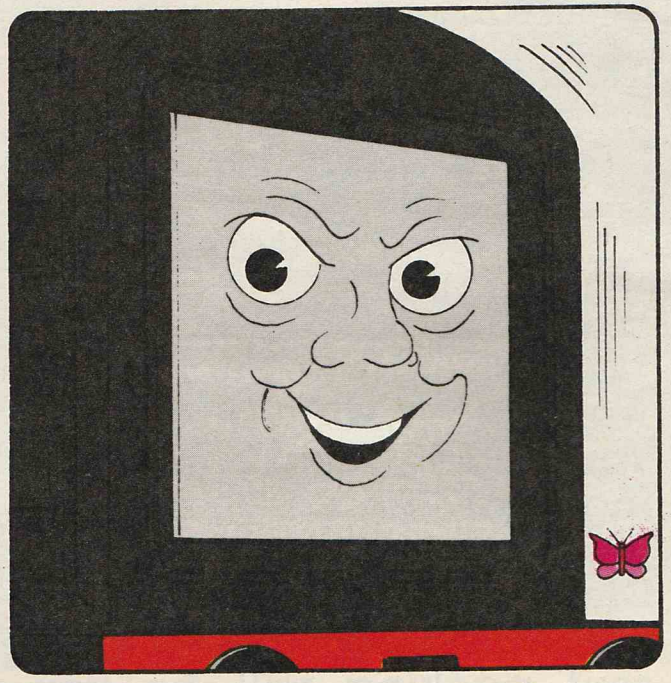
6. Sometimes, the Fat Controller sends Duck to help Percy in the harbour yard. They spend the night in a special shed there, talking about trucks and ships.



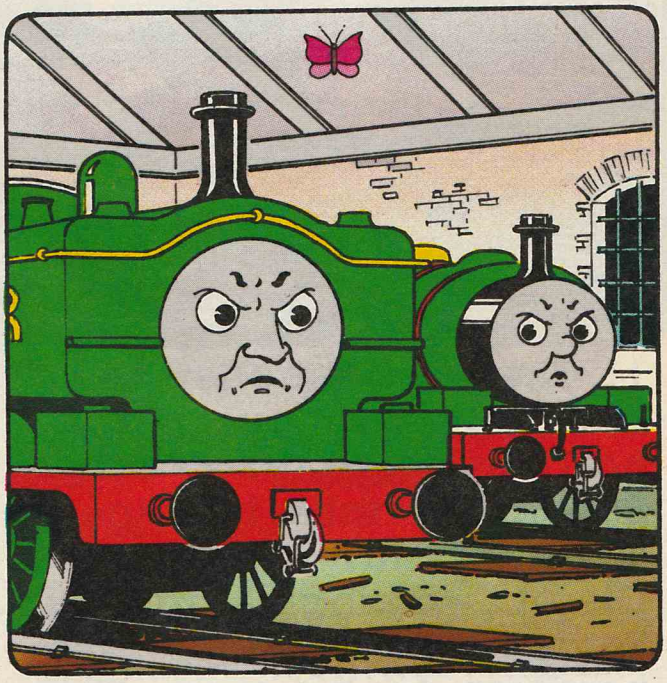
7. One morning, the Fat Controller had promised them that another engine would be coming to work there. "It's about time," said Percy. "I'll say," agreed Duck.



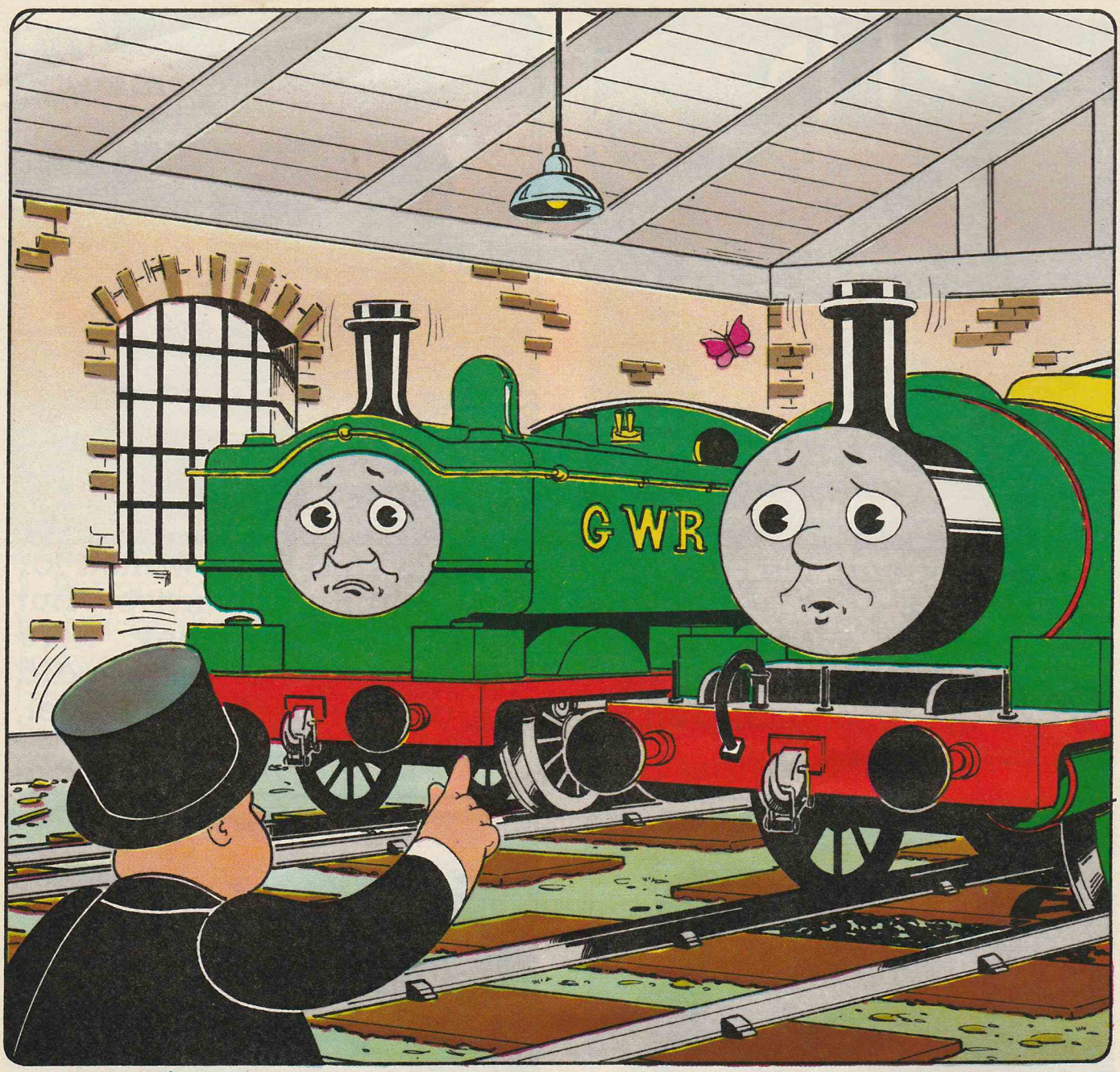
8. Percy and Duck waited for the engine to arrive, but when he did they were rather shocked! "Hullo," said an oily voice. It was Diesel, looking as **mean** as ever!



9. "What are you doing here?" asked Percy and Duck together. "The Fat Controller sent me here," said Diesel. "I'm to help you shunt some silly trucks."



10. Percy and Duck were outraged. They did not like Diesel at all. He had told lies about them before. They refused to work and would not leave their shed!



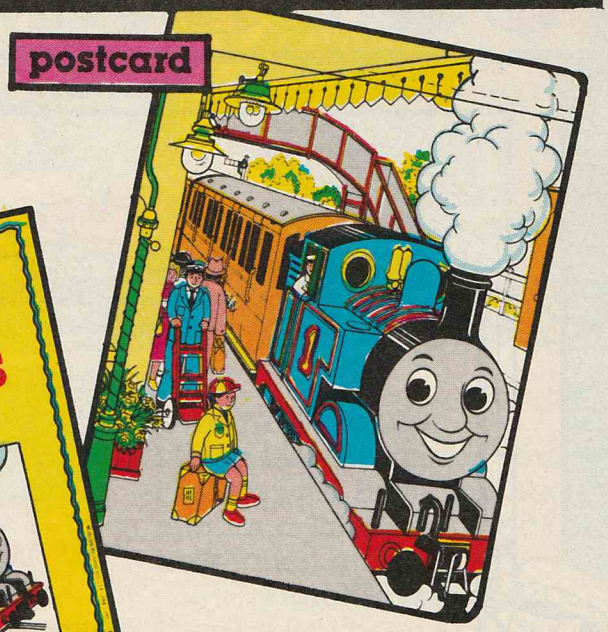
11. The Fat Controller heard that there was trouble in the harbour yard. He asked Edward to take him there. When he arrived he found Diesel working hard, but Percy and Duck were nowhere to be seen. They were sulking in their shed. "What's all this?" asked the Fat Controller. "We're on strike," said Percy nervously.

12. "Yes," said Duck. "We won't work with Diesel, sir. You said you sent him packing, sir." The Fat Controller was cross. "I am giving Diesel a second chance," he said. "The only engines to be sent packing will be you two, if you keep this up!" Reluctantly, Percy and Duck went to work with Diesel, but they didn't like it.

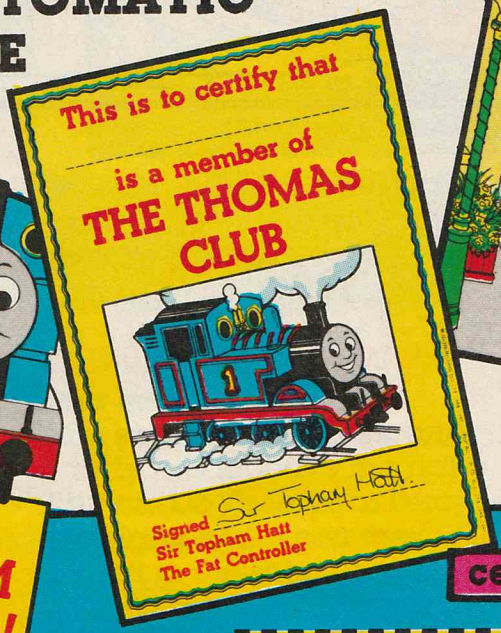
The story continues on page 17!

Subscribe to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends!

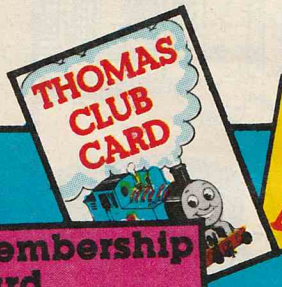
- **HAVE EVERY ISSUE SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR HOME!**
- **BECOME AN AUTOMATIC MEMBER OF THE THOMAS CLUB!**
- **RECEIVE A SPLENDID THOMAS PACK!**



postcard



certificate



membership card

door hanger

It costs just **£9.75** to be sent every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine** for a year – and this includes postage and packing. You will also receive our very special subscriber's **pack** (above). Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Thomas Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.*

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member or the **Thomas club** if I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine is .....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian .....

.....

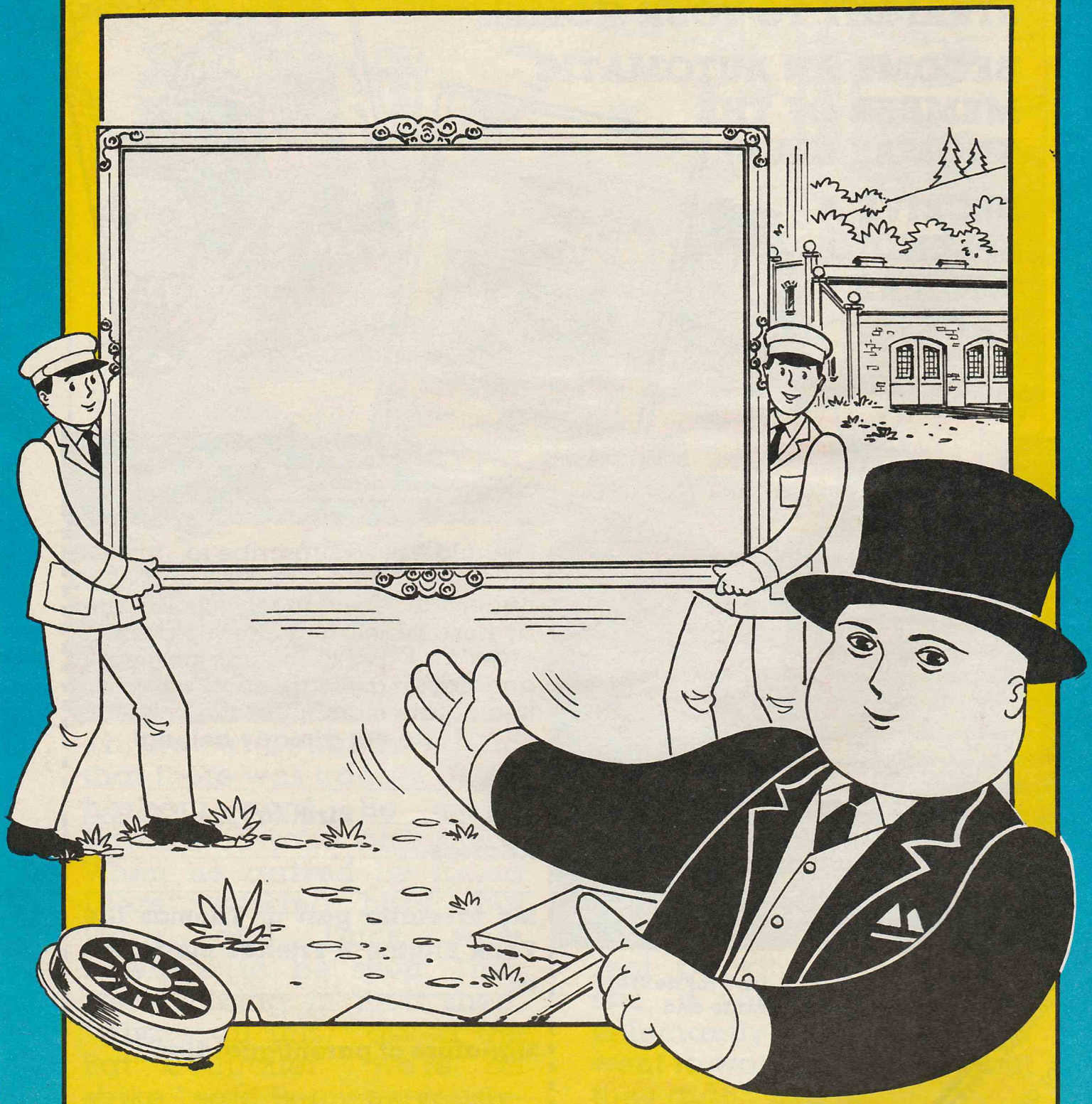
Thomas Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and special pack.

Please make your cheque or postal order payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

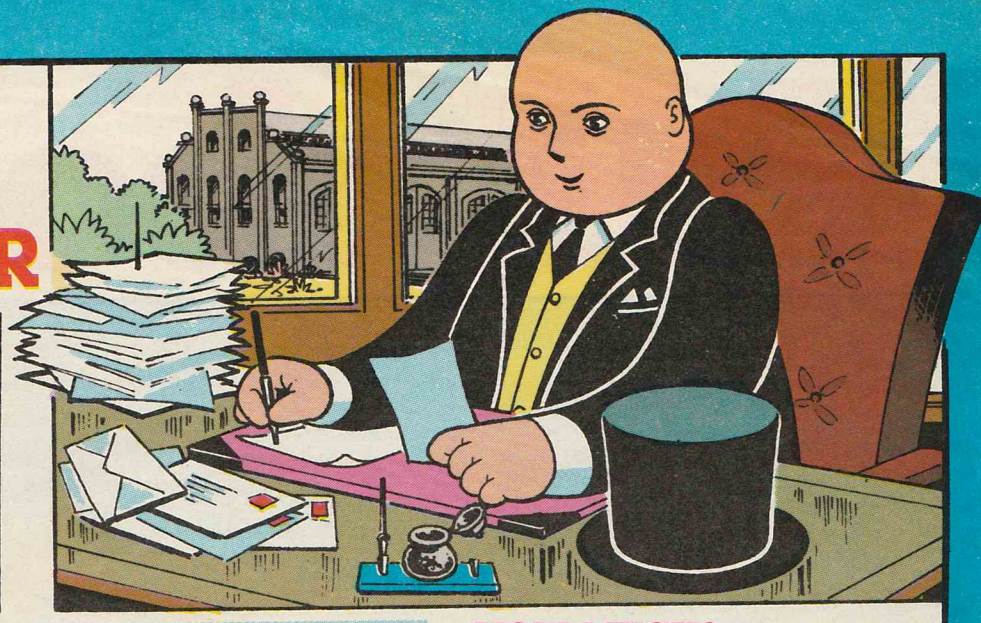
See Thomas, Percy and James's GERBER FRUIT DRINK PACKS for details of a £1 DISCOUNT OFFER! In the shops now!

COLOURING TIME!



**The men hold the big mirror tightly,
Colour the scene, boldly and brightly!**

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,

My mummy says Thomas's TV programme and his magazines are the only things that stop me talking. Do you talk a lot too?

Love from **Frances**, aged 6.

Part of my day is spent talking, but generally I am not a great chatterbox – unlike my dear wife, you know.

Frances wins a set of Thomas vinyl stickers, from Scorpio Products International Ltd.

NEW CAR!

Dear Fat Controller,

My mummy and daddy have got a new car. It has got a special place for me and my brother in the back. It is blue like Thomas and it has a radio in it.

Love from **Stephen**, aged 5.

It sounds splendid. I must say that personally, I do prefer to travel by train if I can.

SCARED OF THE DARK!

Dear Fat Controller,

I am scared of the dark and daddy has to leave the hall light on. Do Thomas or Percy get frightened when they are left in the shed at night?

Love from **William**, aged 3.

No, they are never scared because they know that that is where they are meant to be and that I am never far away. The only time Percy was scared was the time he spent the night alone on a siding! Do your remember?

NEW BABY!

Dear Fat Controller,

Mummy went into hospital to have a new baby and Daddy cooked egg and chips. The egg was all runny but the chips were nice.

Love from **Beatrice**, aged 4.

I often cook lunch on Sundays and I must say I do it rather well. I once made an apple turnover which was an absolute disaster, though.

HOW MUCH?

Dear Fat Controller,

I think that Thomas is your best engine. Have you had him for a long time, and how much did he cost?

From **Gabby**, aged 4.

Thomas has been working on my railway for so long now that I really cannot remember how much he cost.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Kevin Withey (17265), Andrew Martin, Benjamin Lesley Hope (18506), Adam Turville, Steven Young, Mark Truran (21219), Alastair Todd (20753), Andrew Bland, Tim Hayes, Mark James, Mark Turner, Simon Cornlover (23137), Thomas Perrett (12038), Robert Taylor, Ricky Leadbetter, Daniel Wyld, Graeme Revill, Steven Comerie, Samual Barrington (2584), Iyad Elias, Hannah Naire Trohear and Karen Geddie (2729). Graig Pennard, Christopher Medcalf's brother Allan, Killian Johnston, Adam Thompson, Kye Charlesworth (5758), Matthew Golebiowski (2748), Timothy Green, Sebastian Bales (18193), Ben Raby, Shoshana Spencer (21465), Alexanders Jonathan Bennett.

If you'd like a birthday mention here, just send details **on a postcard**, at least **9 weeks** in advance. We cannot promise to print **all** birthdays we receive, but we will do our best!

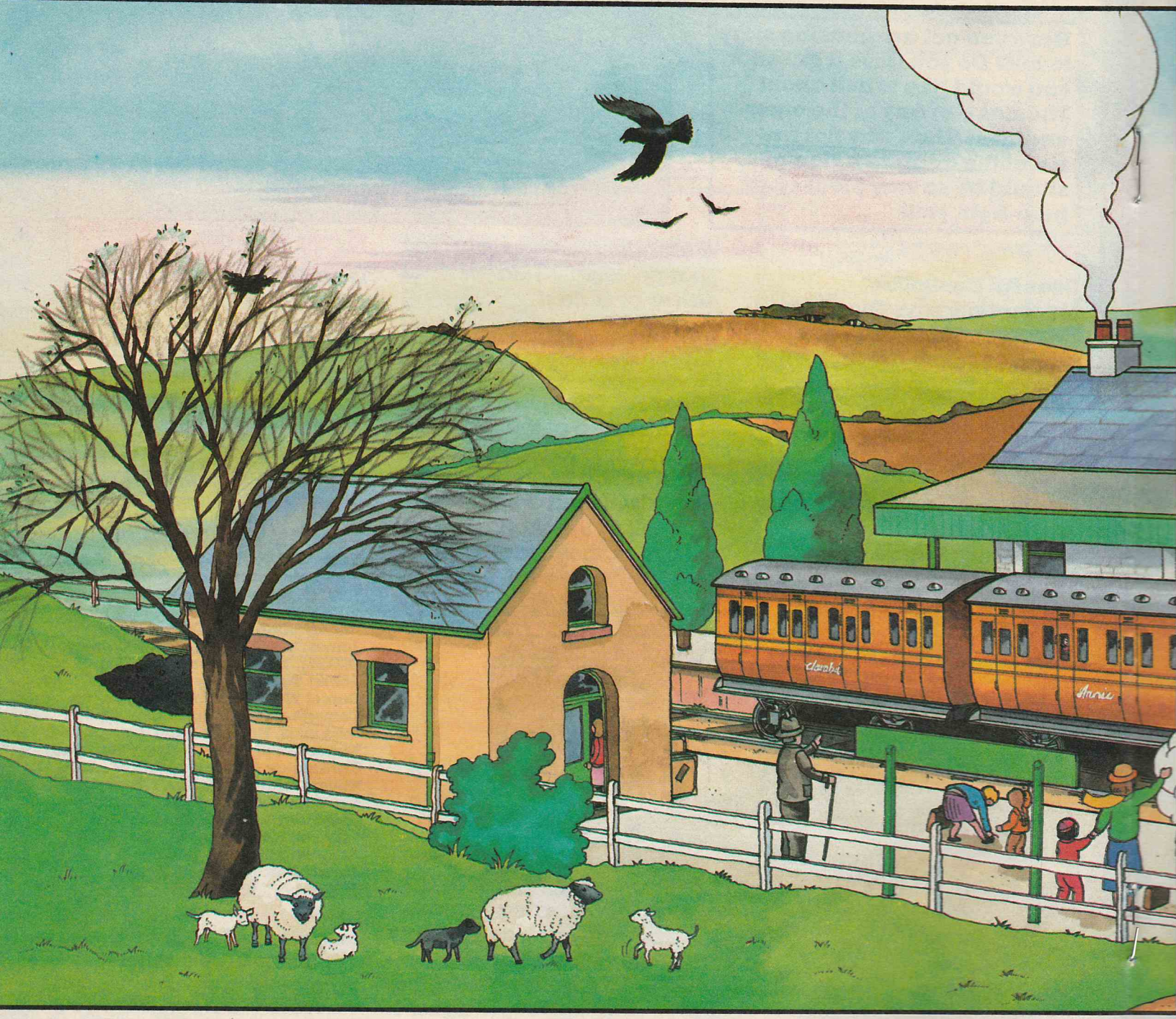
Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

All aboard!



Who is setting off from the station?

Is he pulling trucks or coaches?

What is the guard waving?

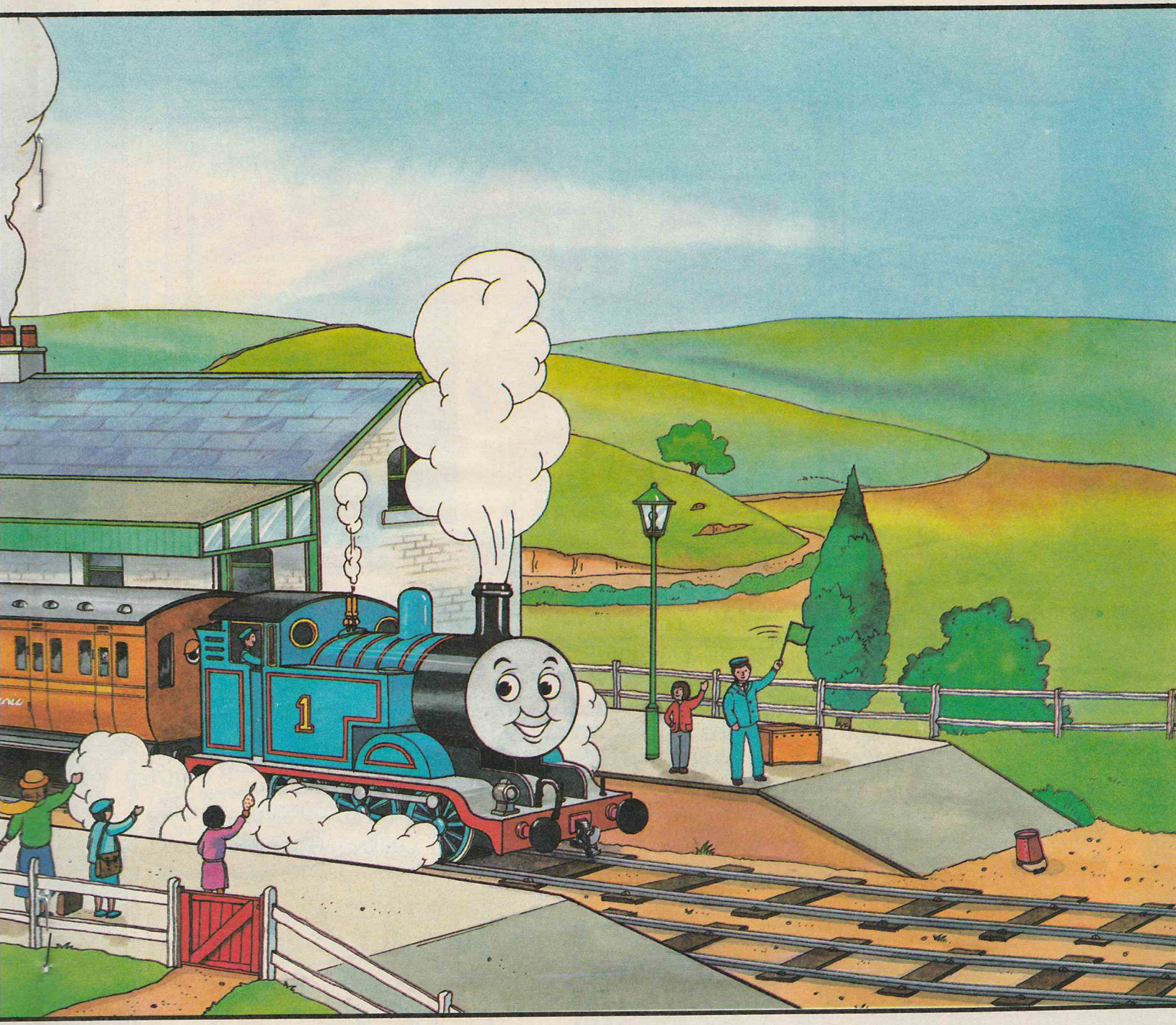
Can you see an upturned bucket?

How many baby

What colour is th

How many birds

Is Thomas happy



baby lambs can you see?

r is the gate?

birds are flying?

happy or sad?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, detach this centrespread and cut along the dotted lines. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next: April showers!

JAMES'S JAPES!

Why is a farmer cruel?
Because he pulls the corn by its ears!
Dominic, aged 4.

What did the beaver say to the tree?
It was nice gnawing you!
Denis, aged 6.

What did the traffic warden have in his sandwiches?
Traffic jam!
Neil, aged 6.

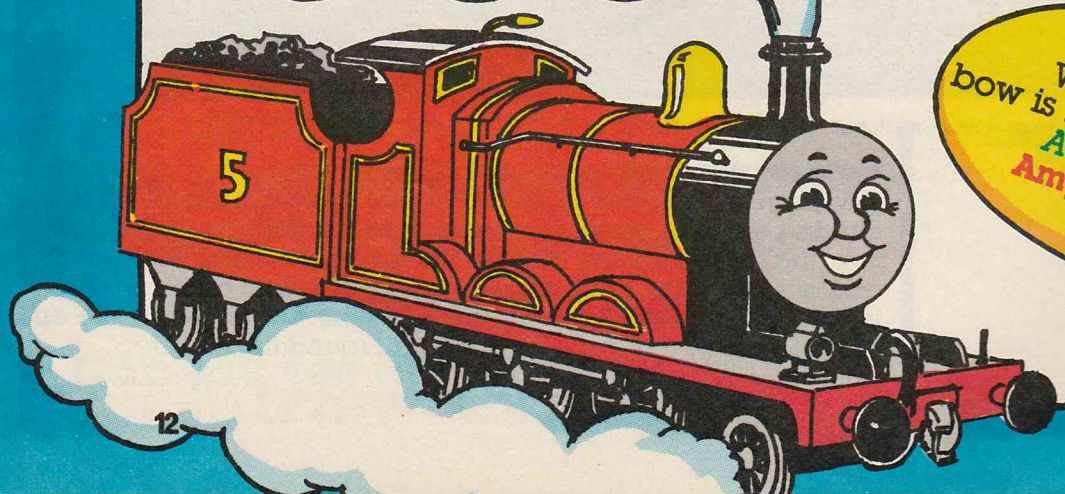
What do you use to cut the ocean?
A see-saw!
Emily, aged 4.

What sort of robbery is the easiest?
A safe robbery!
Ian, aged 6.

Who invented fire?
Some bright spark!
Oliver, aged 5.

Why did the egg go into the jungle?
Because it was an eggsplorer!
Tony, aged 4.

Have you got a favourite joke? Why not send it to James at the address on the letters page?



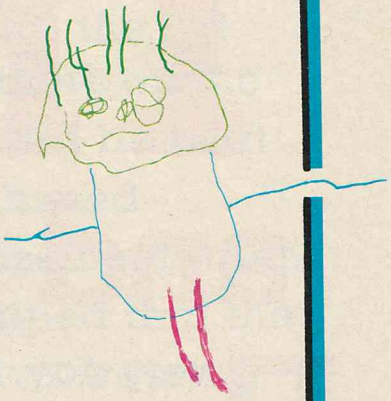
What kind of bow is it impossible to tie?
A rainbow!
Amy, aged 7.

PICTURES OF YOU!

Hello! Here are some pictures you have sent in of yourselves!

This cheery sight is **Carole Parnaby**, aged 7. Carole lives in Dodleston, Chester and her Club membership number is 6813. Her favourite hobbies are playing tennis and netball.

This is **Jack Dingle**, aged just 4. Jack likes playing with his cars and lego, and swimming!



Here is **Melanie Rose**, aged 3. Melanie comes from East Tytherley near Salisbury and her Club membership number is 3084. She is wearing her new red dress. Isn't it splendid?

Paul Lock likes playing with his train set and playing with his sister, Joanne. He also likes doing Thomas dot-to-dots! Paul lives in Erith, Kent and his membership number is 1601.

Your attention please!

Do you find that *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends* has sold out at your paper shop sometimes? One way of being sure of your copy every fortnight is to fill in the form below and hand it in to your newsagent. He will order it regularly especially for you!

Dear Newsagent,
Please save/send me a copy of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** every fortnight! Thank you!

Name .....

.....

Address .....

.....

.....

Signature of parent or guardian .....

.....

A read-aloud story!

Thomas and the Scarecrow

Every day, when Thomas pulled Annie and Clarabel along the branch line, they passed a scarecrow in a field at McConnell's farm. And every day Thomas blew his whistle at it. "Peep, peep! You might scare crows, but you don't scare **me**!" Thomas whistled one morning.

His driver smiled. "If the scarecrow ever moved and waved back, Thomas, you'd be scared then."

"That scarecrow can't move!" Thomas scoffed. "If he tried, all the straw would fall through the holes in his clothes. He's just clumps of straw stuffed into tatty rags. He'd need a proper body and proper clothes before he could even move, let alone scare me!"

scarecrow

The next day, as Thomas chuffed along the branch line, he was ready to whistle at the scarecrow as usual. But as he passed the field, Thomas saw that the scarecrow had gone. "Perhaps he **can** move," thought Thomas, a little worried.

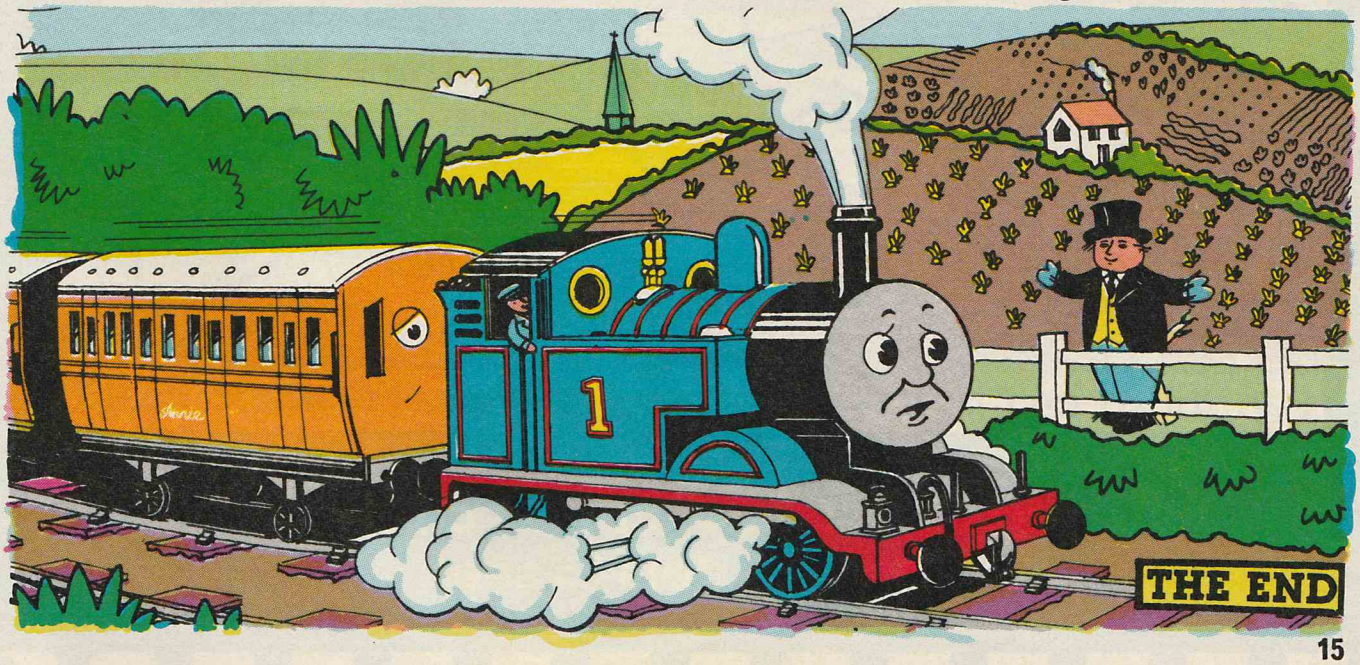
Ahead, there was a bend in the track. As Thomas puffed round it, he looked into the next field, and standing in it he saw something that nearly made him bump his coaches.

"It's the Fat Controller!" Thomas whistled. "That's his top hat and his tailed coat and his grey trousers! He looks fatter than ever, though. He must have a new job scaring crows to lose weight!"

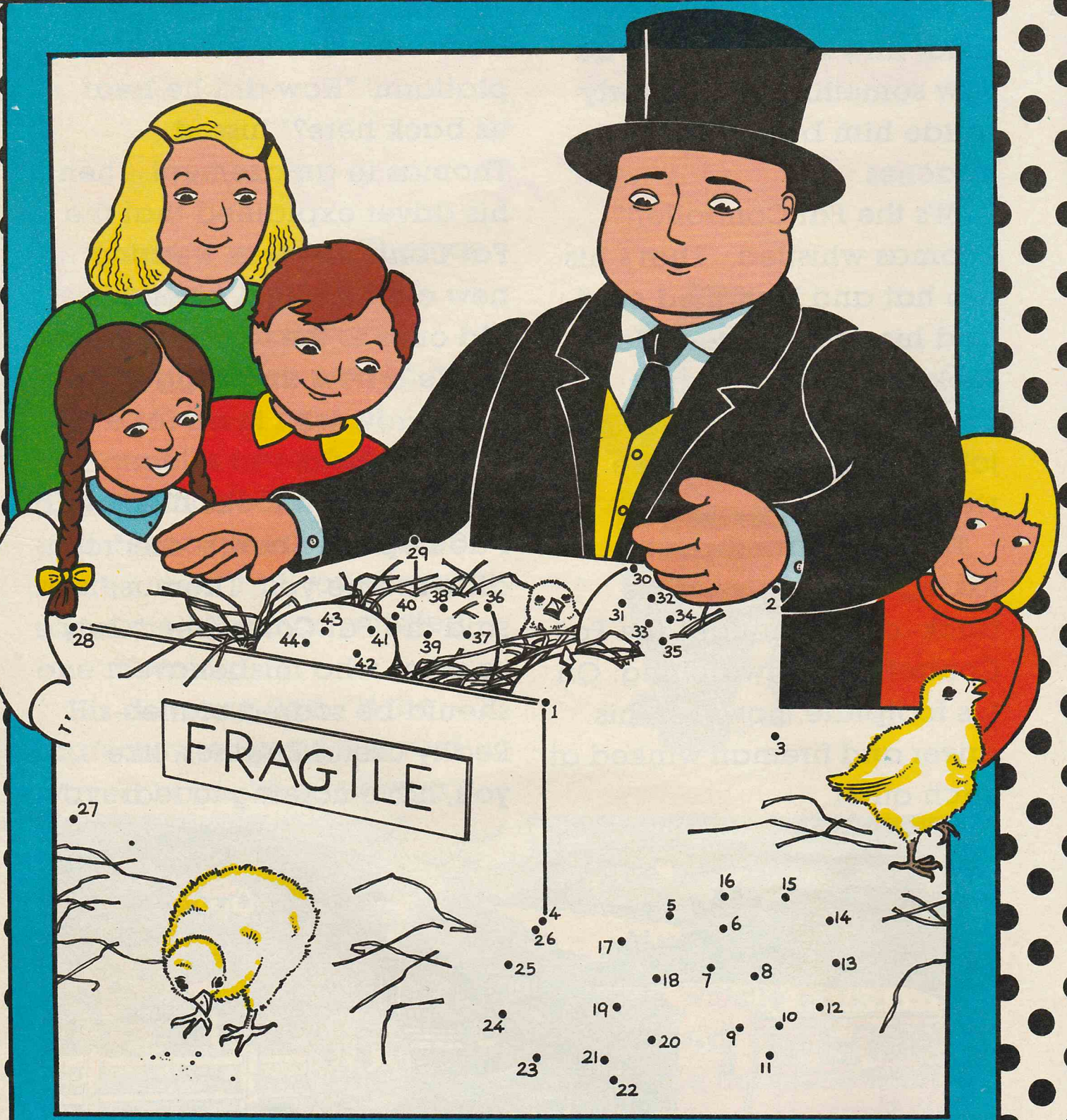
Thomas hurried past, taking extra care on the track as he thought the Fat Controller was watching. On his footplate, however, his driver and fireman winked at each other.

When Thomas pulled into the main station, he was in for another surprise – the Fat Controller was there on the platform! "How did he beat us back here?" hissed Thomas in amazement. Then his driver explained that the Fat Controller was wearing new clothes. He'd given his old ones to the farmer, who'd made a new and bigger scarecrow with them for a different field.

"Although it looks like me, I do hope the new scarecrow didn't scare you, Thomas," said the Fat Controller. "Only engines who misbehave should be scared of me – Really Useful Engines, like you, have nothing to fear . . ."

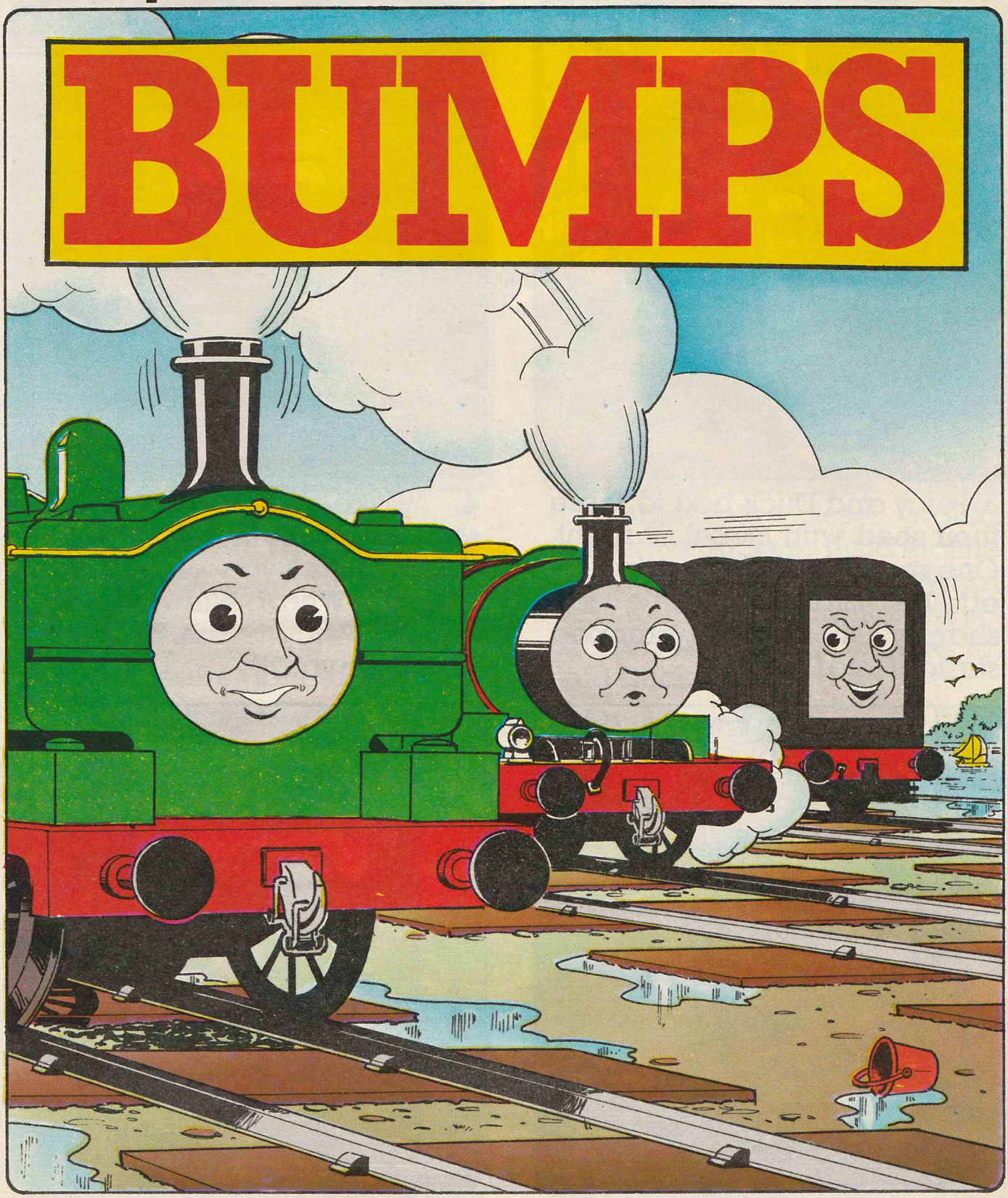


JOIN THE DOTS!



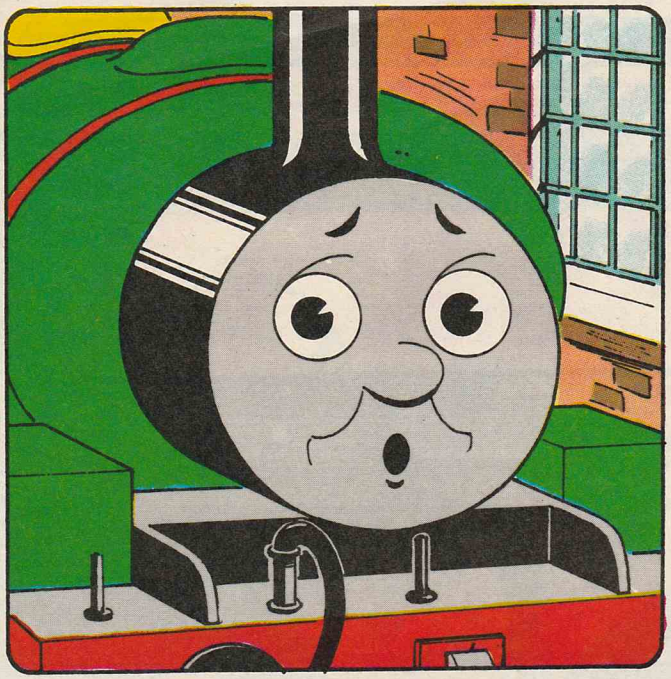
Where have the Easter chicks come from?
Join the dots to see!

The story continues!

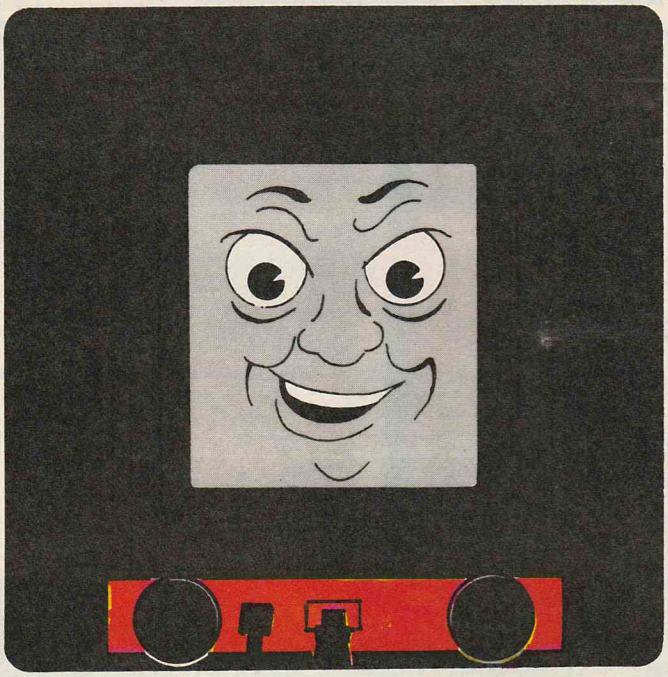


1. So Diesel came to work with Duck and Percy in the harbour yard. He was not the easiest engine to work with. Duck remembered all too well what had happened before.

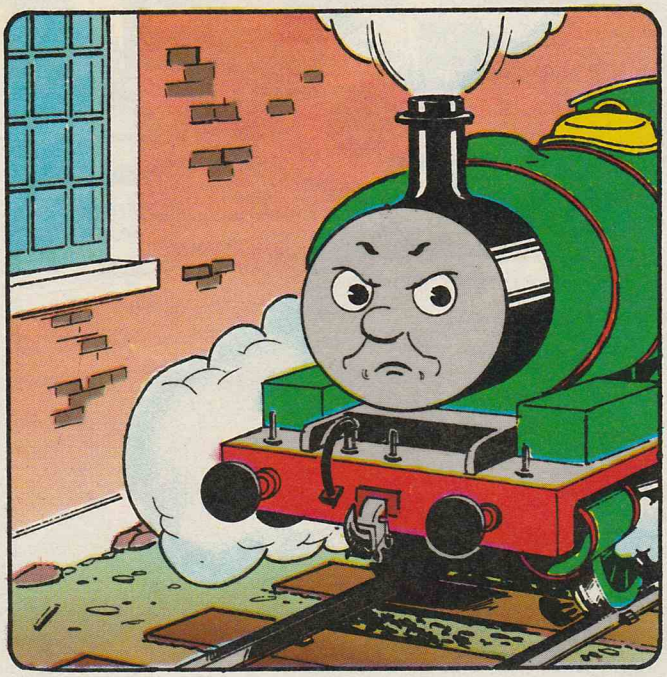
2. "I don't trust him as far as I can shunt him!" he said to Percy. "He's a mean old liar!" "I know," said Percy, "but maybe we should give him a second chance, Duck."



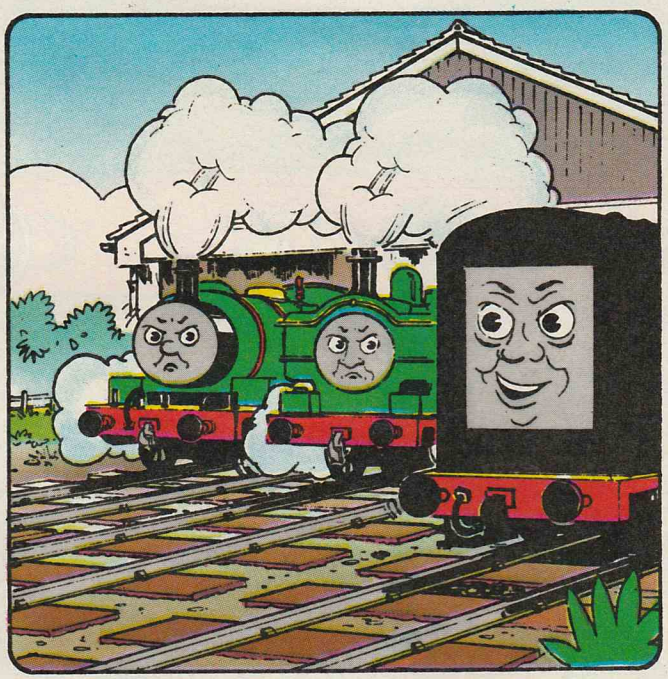
3. Percy and Duck had to share their shed with Diesel at night. One morning Diesel's driver let off his brakes a little too sharply. Oh dear! He bumped straight into Percy.



4. "Wake up there, Percy!" shouted Diesel in his oily voice. "It's high time you were up and about!" "What? Who? Where?" called Percy. "Huh..? Diesel! How dare you?!"

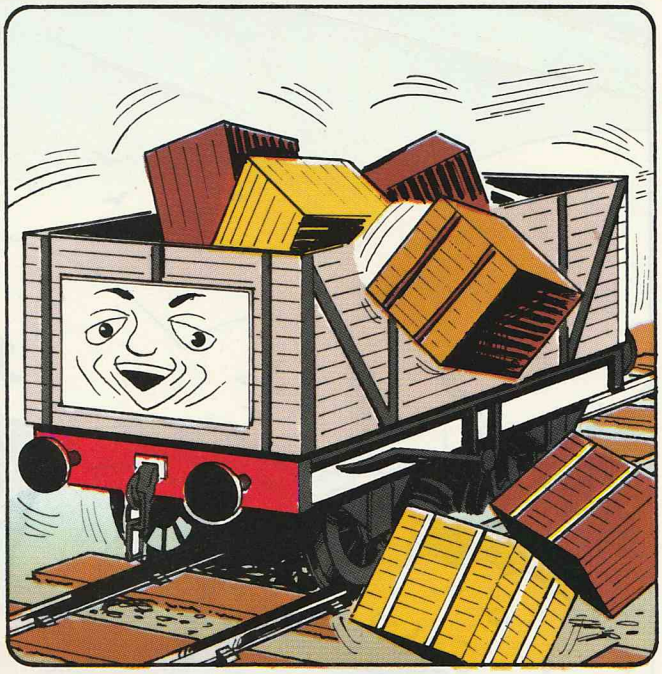


5. Percy was shocked that Diesel had not even said sorry. "It's quite terrible!" he said. "No respectable engine should ever bump another engine! It's **disgraceful!**"

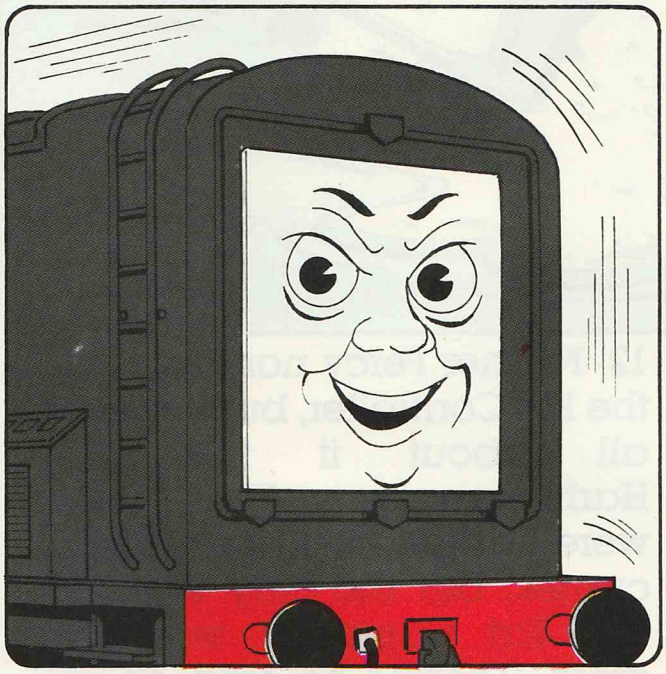


6. "It's despicable!" agreed Duck. "No **steam** engine would be quite so rude!" But Diesel thought it was very funny. He bumped the trucks, so why not bump engines too?

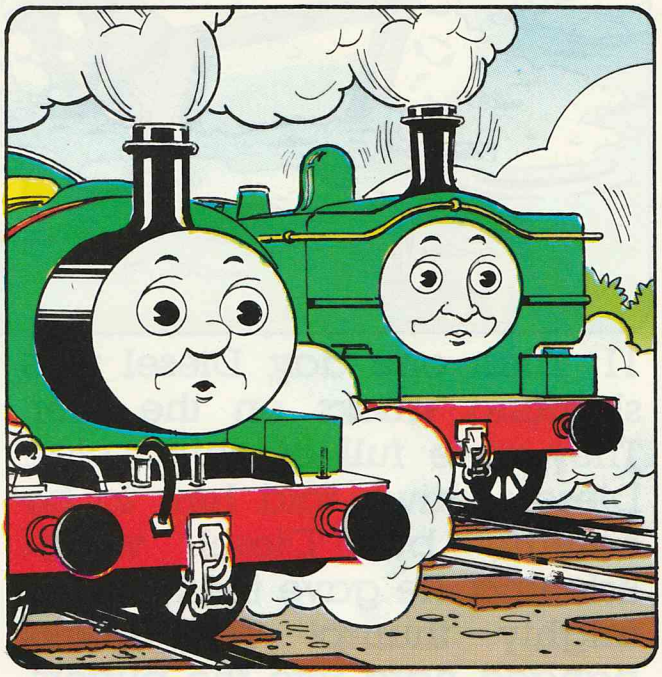
7. Diesel was always very rough. The trucks in the yard didn't like him at all. Whatever he tried to do they resisted it. They grumbled and clattered. This made Diesel's work extra hard.



8. Sometimes Diesel would bump the trucks so hard that he knocked their crates off! "What will the Fat Controller say?" asked Percy. "He won't like it," said Duck, quietly.



9. "So who is going to tell him, I wonder?" said Diesel. "Two little tell-tales! They're so goody-goody, they have to run to tell the Fat Controller about naughty Diesel!"



10. Percy and Duck did not want to be 'tell-tales' so they said nothing about it. But Diesel was ruder than ever, because he thought he could get away with it.

11. Then one day, Diesel was shunting trucks on the pier. They were full of china clay. Diesel's driver told him to be careful, but Diesel wasn't listening. He gave the trucks a mighty thump! The trucks banged hard into the buffers, but the buffers weren't secure. With a **crack** they gave way, and the poor trucks rolled into the sea!

12. Neither Percy nor Duck told the Fat Controller, but he heard all about it from the Harbourmaster. The trucks were hoisted from the sea with cranes, but the clay was lost. The Fat Controller was very cross. "Diesel," he said. "If you are not more careful, you'll spoil your chances again." "Sorry sir," said Diesel, and this time he really was.

THE END

In our next issue: Hurricane!